NEW YORK, SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 1890.—TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

MEASURING CRIMINALS.

THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES IDENTIFY OLD OFFENDERS, Br. Bertillon and Hts Anthrepometric Method-What It Has Done and What

Its Inventor Boltoves It Capable of Doing-Everyhody Ought to be Measured, Says the Doctor-Advantages of the New Way Over the Old-Wonderful Exactness. PARIS, Aug. 13.-I read in THE SUN not long ago an account of a revolt in the Massachusetts State prison on the occasion of the introduction of the anthropometric method of measure-

ment. Calling upon Dr. Bertillon, the originnator of the system. a few days later and showing him THE SUN'S despatch, I asked him what be thought of the matter. "Well," he replied. anghingly. "your prisoners are more intellicent than ours, for we have applied my anthro-

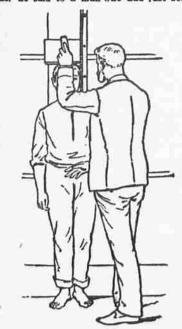


DR. ALPHONSE BERTILION. ric method in all the prisons throughout france and have never met with any opposifien on the part of the inmates,"

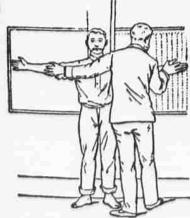
Dr. Alphonse Bertillon, who is now the Chief of the Identification service at the Prefecture of Police, is a dark-complexioned, fine-looking gentleman, not far in the forties, and was forcly attached to the Hygienic department at actory results given by the old modes of identifying professional criminals, and, being an habitual reader of Emile Gaboriau's novels. one day conceived the idea of the anthropometric system. Gaboriau, as is well known.
was an ingenious writer, who drew the plots of many of his novels and short stories from police and criminal life, and was constantly specultating on the problems that such subets naturally suggested. Dr. Bertillon's edueation as a physician, and his knowledge of anatomy had well prepared him for the development of the plan prompted by the



THE MEASURING INSTRUMENTS. ovelist. Having examined so many individsale, it is not surprising to find that the Chief of the Identification Service has become something of a chiromancer: but instead of trying to read the future in the hands of the men who are brought to him to be measured, he seeks b know the past. "Show me the palm of your hand," he said to a man who had just been



FIRST MEASUREMENT, THE HEIGHT. measured, "What is your trade or occupa tion?" "Barber." "That's singular. You "That's singular. Your thumbs are not hardened by the scissors at the base, or at the second joint of the middle finger, as is the case with those of barbers. Own up, you have never clipped anybody's hair." This test is frequently tried upon women who pretend that they are honest seam-"Very well," says the doctor; he the needle marks on your fingers." And

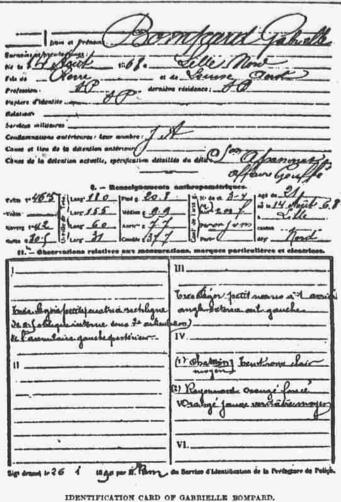


SECOND MEASUREMENT, THE SPAN. sy are obliged to admit that they have never sandled a needle. Dr. Bertillon has a collecion of photographs of all these professions signs that is probably unique in the worldand will doubtless be of use some day when writes a book upon the hand.

Dr. Bertillon is an enthusiast on the subject of his identification method, and the results that he has obtained from it fully justify his exmestness. Not a single case of mistaken identity has occurred since his system was adopted in 1882. The Doctor foresees the time when his method will be universally applied. is criminal matters its efficacy is no longer sessioned; it prevents confusion and renders

judicial errors rare. As for its larger application, if all persons were measured and each one had his anthropometric card, no body could remain at the Morgus or elsewhere without being immediately recognized. "Home times," said the Doctor, "we succeed in discovering the identity of an individual, but in order to recognize him he must have already passed through our hands, and therefore be an old offender. Here is a case in point: A property owner at Saint Ouen, a few nights ago, shot a man who was prowling around his garden. When the body was brought to the Morgue it was measured to see if the thief was an habitual criminal. It turned out that we had his card in our racks. Thus we not only ascertained who the man was, but the responsibility of the person who shot this marauder will be much less than it would have been if we had not proved that he was an old offender. But were every person measured, no sone would have to be a jailbird in order to be at once recognized in case he should die by a violent death. If Gouffé, for example, had been measured, he would have been recognized six

system may be said to be perfect. An eld offender when once more in the hands of justice is naturally anxious to conceal his real name, or the name under which he has been previously convicted, and thus escape the heavier penalty that is meted out to criminals who have already been condemned for other misdeeds. Formerly this class was often able to escape detection, for the very general description of round or oval face, gray eye, chestnut hair, &c., was never any great aid in find ing out who a man really was. Even photography, which was certainly and still is a useful auxiliary for the police, did not give a sufficient proof of identity, for the rapidity with which a professional rogue can change his appearance is astonishing. It is often impossible to recognize the same individual in three photographs made in three successive years. Besides, admitting that the photographs were an infallible means of identification, how is it possible to look through almost a hundred thousand of them every time a man is arrested ?graphs of adult men (without counting the wonen and children) that have been collected substitution of a body for a living man, as was | during the past eight years at the Prejecture



for the anthropometric method would demonstrate the subterfuge and expose the crime I might go on for a long time," continued the Doctor, "showing the advantages of a general application of the measurement system by citing its fitness for travellers, conscripts, &c. but a still stronger illustration is the use that you practical Americans have made of the plan. In Chicago, I hear, a life insurance com-



THIRD MEASUREMENT, THE TRUNK OF THE

BODY. nany has rendered its use obligatory upon all those who wish to be insured. Thus the substitution of persons is impossible, and the com-pany is not liable to fraud, on this point at least. Although the anthropometric method has been applied in the Illinois State prison at Joliet and several other institutions in the West, as well as in some of the prisons in the Middle States, its use is far from being general throughout the United States, in spite of the

rate of nearly one hundred a day. In former times policemen, detectives, and prison wardens received a dollar for each old offender whom they recognized: it was a struggle of artince against artifice, but more than threequarters of the hardened criminals succeeded in outwitting their opponents. This is no longer possible, because, while a man can change his name and disguise his features to a certain extent, he cannot alter the measurements of determinate parts of his body."

For the beneit of the general reader I will briefly describe Dr. Bertilion's method, the figures of which are illustrated by a series of unpublished drawings that are to appear in a new work upon the subject, and which the doctor has kindly placed at my disposal. Every individual who is brought to the depot, or central police station, is at once sent up stairs to the top floor of the conciergerie to be measured. Three special employees are detailed for this operation, which consists in taking certain lengths or widths of the bony part of the human frame, together with those of the span, the trunk of the body, the right ear, and the mention of the color of the eyes and hair, the supposed age, and the descriplonger possible, because, while a man can



POURTH MEASUREMENT, THE HEAD.



the old ways of finding out-or attempting to find out-the identity of habitual criminals."

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Dr. Bertilion believes that the presides which exists against its use in New York will eventually be overcome. Gradual improvements have been introduced since the first experiments were made, and now the which exists against its use in New York will eventually be overcome. Gradual imfirst experiments were made, and now

body. This measurement as well as that of the span, serves rather for the physical description of the subject than for the classification of his card.

The fourth measurement is the length of the head. The prisoner being seated upon a stool, one point of a compass is placed in the hollow above the bridge of the nose, while the other point is used to find out the greatest length of the back of the head. By means of a screw the opening of the compass is fixed at that length, and as a check the operation of measuring is begun again. The instrument is so accurate that should a mistake of only one millimetre too little have been made on the first measurement, the points will not pass; if, on the contrary, the compass has been opened one millimetre too much, the points will not touch the skin of the head. It will be seen, therefore, extraordinary though it may appear, that without the slightest difficulty the head can be measured to within one millimetre.

The fifth measurement is the maximum breadth of the head, and is obtained by measuring from one parietai bone to the other in the same manner as the length of the head is taken.

The sixth measurement taken is that of the

the same manner as the length of the head is taken.

The sixth measurement taken is that of the right ear, which is one of the most important factors in the identification of criminals. It is almost impossible to meet with two ears that are identical in all their parts.

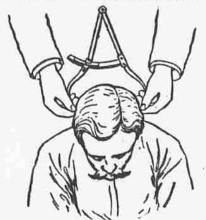
The seventh measurement is the maximum length of the left foot. To avoid any cheating the prisoner is made to stand, barefooted, on the left foot only, with the left knee bent.

The eighth measurement the length of the middle finger of the left hand, is one of the best of the indications, for it can be taken to within a millimetre, provided care is used so that the finger be bent at an exact right angle with the back of the hand; there can be no cheating with this, as it undergoes no alteration from adult to old age. The nail must be pared if it is unusually long.

The ninth measurement is the length of the left forearm. The subject places his arm in a sliding measure resting upon a trestle, the hand open.

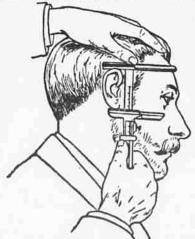
All these measurements, together with the mention of the color of the eyes, hair, dc., are recorded upon a card, upon which are pasted two photographs, one exactly full face and the other exactly right profile. The next step is to find out whether all these measurements do not apply to some old jail bird who has been measured previously under another name. At the same time Dr. Bertillon devised his anthropeometric method he also imagined a system of classification of the identification cards, which is as important as the measurement itself; for, with the description of the criminals, if you cannot put your hand on the cards at once they are practically useless, as the accumulated photographs were before the introduction of the anthropometric method. Thanks to Dr. Bertillon's classification system, the card is found in a few minutes. Here is how the classification is made:

Let us suppose that there are now 90,000 identification cards at the Prefecture, First they are classified, according to the length of these dotters errors of 30,000 is ne



PIFTH MEASUREMENT, THE HEAD,

visions will each contain only 10,000 cards. Then another similar division, according to the length of the middle finger, reduces the cards in each category to about 3,300. This makes twenty-seven groups of about 3,300 each. The length of the left foot furnishes a fourth indication, which divides each one of the twenty-seven preceding packages into three of 11,000 cards, and this number is still further reduced into elements of about 400, in taking

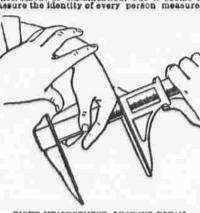


SIXTH MEASUREMENT. THE RIGHT HAB,

the length of the arm as a basis, and then into divisions of 120 by means of the height of the figure. The length and width of the ear and the color of the eyes, which alone furnishes seven divisions, based on the intensity of the pigmentation of the iris, reduces the lot of 90,000 cards into groups of about ten. The slight differences in the figures that are observed between one description and another are sufficient to preventall confusion. Because two lengths of head are classified simul-

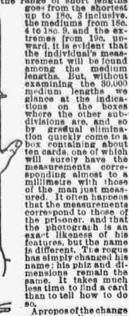


SEVENTH MEASUREMENT, THE LEFT POOT, taneously in the same division ishort, average, or extreme), it does not necessarily follow that they are identical: there are several different lengths of small heads, from the very small to the almost average. Thus, it is well night impossible to find two equivalent anthropometric descriptions of different individuals. The anthropometric method is, therefore, not only an instrument of classification, but it seems to assure the identity of every person measured



RIGHT MEASUREMENT, SHOWING DETAIL. in spite of all the physical changes that can take place during life.

The search is begun by consulting the series according to the length of the head because the prisoner being unable to modify the di-manaions of his head, this measurement will



Aproposof the change of name. It appears that certain categories of male actors are that certain categories of male actors are named to the constant of the constant of the constant of the categories. All the individuals of this class, measured by the anthropometric service and atterward arrested for new offences, had, without exception, given a new name. Another remarkable result of the introduction of this method is that the number of arrests of English pickpockets has diminished each year. Last year there were only nineteen caught.

IOWA'S COAL PALACE.

A Great Structure at Ottumwa Built of Hugo Blocks of Coal,

The newest thing in the unique trade architecture of the West is a coal palace which has just been erected at Ottumwa, Iowa. It is to be opened early in September and it is fondly hoped that President Harrison will take a conspicuous part in the ceremonies of the occasion. The Inter-Ocean, describing the struc-ture, says that it will be truly palatial in all its architectural details. It has been built in the heart of the city, adjoining the new Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Union Station, and it covers a full block. It rises 200 feet to the pinnacle of its highest central tower, and the style of architecture is a compromise between the Gothic and the Byzantine.



The building is two stories in height, the first being about twonty feet to the eefiling, the other reaching to the top of the structure, varying from forty to sixty feet. The main entrance is on Main street, through the grand arch in the tower. That battlement is thirty-six feet wide and of the same propertions as the one to the left. The rear end is beautified by twin semi-circular turrets, one of which can be seen at the extreme right. A couple of similar towers, somewhat clongated jut out from the other side toward the opposite or Washington street end of the relace, while a similar tower to that first described forming the main street entrance symmetrizes the palace on the opposite side. In this tower is the stage, thirty by thirty-six, and the main hall with the balconies ascending direct from the stage will give the building an auditorium with a seating cancity of from 6:000 to 8:000.

The building is literally a coal palace. It is built of great hewn blocks of the glistoning bituminous product laid in red mortar. And, in fact, the building is located upon the effect of a genuine coal mine, and this mine, in opera-

bituminous product laid in red mortar. And, in fact, the building is located upon the site of a genuine coal mine, and this mine, in operation and open to public inspection, is to be one of the chief features of the exhibition about to be given in the new building.

Into the mine a shaft will lead from the main tower, over 150 feet above. The tower is over forty feet square, and will be reached bymeans of two elevators in the semi-circular towers toward the front, or by flights of stairs in either of the other semi-circular towers at the rear corners. From this point the slightseer will enter a car just as in a regular mine, when he will be lowered through a dark and forbidding shaft into the southen parl, where the mules and miners with their lamps and picks, and the coal in large veins can be seen. The exhibition, which opens on Sept. 16 and closes on Oct. 11, will be a great agricultural, industrial, and mechanical display, and it is expected to aid force to the already lively boom which the place is having. If the great building does not meet the late of the Spring Falace of Texas, Ottumwa will be lucky. What a fire such a great apple of coal would make!

Frightened by the P. M. L. Amazons.

The Eleventh district Republicans have unanimously resolved that they deem it advisable and for the best interests of the party to hold the County Convention for the nominahold the County Convention for the nomination of the city and county ticket at as early a
day as possible. The Republicans of the
Eleventh have had to contemplate the great
netivity of the Foonle's Municipal League, for
the Victoria Hotel annex, where Ollie Teall
marshals his thirty-five pretty girls, is in the
district. They have become alarmed at the
idea that the League will get its ticket into the
felt first, and perhaps make so good nominations that some Republicans may fall in love
with the ticket. This is not a very wild assumption, for the large majority of those identified with the League are lispublicans.
The Eleventh District Association also passed
resolutions of regret for the death of Aqueduct
Commissioner Howe.

Prof. Worth's New Museum. Another popular price house will be added to the city's list of amusement resorts to morrow, with the opening of Prof. R. M. Worth's new dime museum on the southeast corner of Sixth avenue and Thirtieth street. There are dive halls for the exhibition of franks and curios, and the entertainment of patrons. The main room is size feet long, and the four smaller ones everage 100 feet each. In these halls the well known and widely travelled Professor will instruct the public about his vast personal collection of atolent and melern curiosities gashiered from all parks of the gibbe Prof. Worth has devoted thirty six years of his unusually eventful life to the gathering of inaminate objects reventful life to the gathering of inaminate objects are and remarkable specimens. Following the line of latter day museums an hourly singe sniertalisment will be given every day by a picked number of vandevilla people. One section of the house is entirely new and the out part has been completely remodelled. The appointments and decorations throughout are bandsome and arrivate in decorations throughout are bandsome and arrivate in decorations throughout are bandsome and arrivate in decorations throughout are bandsome harmonious and pleasing in effect. In a word, Frof. Worth's new museum is one of the most perfect resorts of its killed. ening of Prof. E. M. Worth's new dime museum on

It would be strange indeed if some of the enterprising

Remmler's Execution Reproduced.

It would be strange indeed if some of the enterprising museum managers of this town did not have something to remind their patrons fercibly of the greatest sensation ever known in legal deaths. The Kennmier execution made a deep impression upon the public mind, and Manager George ituier of the Paisce Museum, in Fourteenth street, has reproduced the death scene for his patron; roles in this drama of death have been faithfully reproduced in wax said the faces are said to be very exact and soomrate. The prisoner, arrapped fast to the death scale, certainly looks like Kemmier's pin tures, and every one recognities the resemblance. The switch board, the fatal electrodes, the little familiated wires, the weit-flooking chair with its guant arms reaching out as if grasping for a freen victum, are singuistive in the extreme, and the whole group is so realistically made up that it requires little imagination on the part of the spectator to see the real Kemmier, the real death chair, and the way of the schemics of the spectator to the test of the spectator of the spectato

Its Fifty-ninth Exhibition.

The fifty-ninth exhibition of the American Institute will begin on Oct. 1 and close on Nov. 20. Several im provements have been made in the building on Third avenue, where the fairs are hald, and General Superintendent Charles Wager Hall announces rapid engagements of space upon his diagram, now open at the offices of the Institute, 118 West Thirty-sighth street.

The Folding Bed and a Country Squire.



Uncle Sile, on a visit to daughter Sally in town, went up to the sitting room, approached one of those cute par per pieces called a Cabinet, and took hold of a bottle of Apple Jack (he came from a Prohibition State), never thinking that there were sleepers in the other side (for it was a "Standard Folding Sed"), when, lo! the sleepers were aroused and the Squire was instantly covered with a Revolver by the inturiated sleeper as a midnight marauder, when, luckly, he was recognized by Darter Sally, who was the other occupant with her liege lord.

If you want to see those CUNNING pieces of Furniture called FOLDING Beds VISIT MASON'S, for WE have always on hand a FULL line, REPRESENTATIVE of all the first-class makers, such as the "Standard," "O'Dell," "Anderson," "Clark Thomas & Co.," "Ames & Frost," and others, while other houses are confined to ONE, or at most TWO. makes. As for prices, they will be neither Fulton avenue's "Dry Goods District prices" nor "Gotham's."

It is superfluous to add that OUR House is the HEAD-QUARTERS for well-made, modern style FURNITURE, (Parlor, Chamber and Dining Room), CARPETINGS, OIL CLOTHS. MATTINGS, &c., BEDDINGS, SPRING BEDS, &c., at MOD-ERATE Prices.

Don't PURCHASE until you get OUR estimate. Our new Illustrated Catalogue will be ready in about a week and will be mailed free on application.

MASON'S.

117, 119, AND 121 MYRTLE AV., NORTHEAST CORNER BRIDGE STREET,

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

WILL SOON HAVE NO WIVES.

Mr. Smyth Had Two, and Number One to Sning for Divorce.

Edward L. Smyth, who was arrested at Rochester a few days ago at the instance of J.

P. Warner, and taken to Scranton, whence he qualis dusting themselves under some current had eloped with Mr. Warner's daughter, has for absolute divorce by his wife, Emily Smyth, nce Mott, to whom he was married in this city three years ago. The basis for this action is Mr. Smyth's escapade with Miss Warner. He met the young lady about two months ago when he went to board at her father's house on when he went to board at her father's house on Capouse avenue, Scranton. After inducing Mr. Warner to go into the paper business, and contribute about all the capital, Smyth worked himself into the good graces of his nartner's pretty daughter. Hose, She kept the books of the concern, and they were thrown together constantly. Rese's parents noticed that their daughter was irlendly with Smyth, and they began to make inquiries about him. Mrs. Warner heard that Smyth had a wife living, and she visited his parents at Rochester, who confirmed the report, stating that their son had been married to Miss Emily Mott of New York for over three years. Miss Warner had been cautioned repeatedly by her mother, but she paid no beed to this good counsel. On her return Mrs. Warner told the girl the state of affairs, but that night hose eloped with Smyth. They were married at Binghamton and then went to flochester. The husband of Miss Warner's sister went to Hochester with an officer and had Smyth arrested for cashing two checks of the paper firm and appropriating the proceeds to his own use without making an entry on the books. Miss Warner returned with her brother-in-law. Capouse avenue, Scrauton. After inducing Mr.

The City's Debt and Balance Sheet, The Comptroller's report for the fiscal year anding July 81 gives the following interesting

tabulated summary of the city's fi dition:	nancial cor	1-
Balance in Treasury Aug. 1, 1889 Taxes General fund Appropriation account iperial and trust account Loans	B, 467, 139	84 96 ()6 93
Expenditures—general city On special and trust accounts	\$4,911,903 28,677,911	63
Balance Aug. 1, 1890 Total funded debt, Aug. 1, 1890 Less stuking fund	\$03,589,817 1,292,874 \$146,399,612 48,832,095	75 18
Not	\$67,567,516 12 684,612	
Total get bonded debt	\$110,234,126	55

The Hot Corn Man's Tough Customer. John A. Howard of 388 Third avenue. was

peddling hot corn at Twenty-eighth street and Third avenue at 2:30 yesterday morning when George W. Hughes, aged 27 years, came along. ate an ear of corn, and refused to pay for it. To avoid trouble Howard picked up his can of To avoid trouble Howard picked up his can of corn and went to the hallway of 164 East Twesty-eighth street. Hughes followed and iried to take more of the corn. Not succeeding he drew a kulfe and stabbed Howard in the ardomen, infileting a dangerous wound. Hughes is now in Relievue Hospital. Policeman Taylor of the Twenty-first precinct subsequently found flughes in Tryer's saloon. at 164 East Twenty-eighth street, and arrested him. He also arrested the bartender, William Ryan, for having the sloon open at that hour. Both were held by Justice Taintor in the York-ville Police Court.

Suicide of a Swedish Servant Maid.

Ella Hanson, a young Swede who has worked as a domestic for Dr. E. N. Liell at 89 East Fiftieth street for a year, was found dead in bed yesterday with a towel fied closely around her neck. Dr. Liell said the young woman had committed suicide, probably on account of melancholy. She had been in ill health for several weeks.

The Gilmore Concerts.

dilmore will have all the big guns fired at Manhattan heach to-day and also to-morrow with the addition of the anvils. On both days there will be famous vocal soloists large overs chorus and all the other attractions of the jubiles. That these concerts are popular is attested by the enormous attentiones. TAMING A FLOCK OF QUAILS.

quer the Wild Birds.

SCHANTON, Aug. 30.-Several weeks ago Mrs. bushes in the back end of her garden. The birds looked so happy and contented that she thought it would be too bad to disturb them so she returned to the house without pulling the weeds out of a patch of onions that she had gone there for the purpose of doing. In an hour or so the qualls had disappeared in the tall timothy of the adjoining meadow, and Mrs. Enyder scattered some buckwheat around where they had been wallowing. On the fol-lowing day the birds came there again, gobbled up the buckwheat, and had a good time. Every day for a week or so Mrs. Snyderscattered grain among the busines for the qualls to feed on, and the birds soon got so that they looked for food in the garden as regularly as they did for a resting place at night out in the woods, back of the big meadow lot.

One morning the kind-hearted woman forgot to throw the buckwheat, but the quails re-

woods, back of the big mendow lot.

One morning the kind-hearied woman forgot to throw the buckwheat, but the quails reminded her of her negligence by appearing at the usual hour and making a great fuse and noise because there wasn't any grain in the garden for them to pick up. Mrs. Snyder let the birds hunt for other kinds of lood that day, and for several mornings after that she didn't fail to give them a good feed of buckwheat. Then she missed a morning on purpose to see how the quails would act when they didn't find any grain near the currant bushes, watching from a second-story window for them to make their appearance.

Promotiy on time the whole flock crept under the garden feece from the meadow, ran among the busies. And becam to dedge and flutter about where they had been in the habit of finding the buskes. And becam to dedge and flutter about where they had been in the habit of finding the buskes. When they had searched long enough to learn that no grain had been put there for them, the birds piped in low tones, fluttered uneasily, scattered into the vegrabals beds, and appeared to be very much disappointed. In a little while the quails gave up the search, assembled under the currant bushes, and went to dusting themselves in the soil. Mrs. Snyder counced fourteen in the flock, and then she went down stairs, got a basinful of buckwheat, and tipicod her way into the garden. When she had got as enear to the guails as she could get without scaring them. Mrs. Snyder flung a handful of buckwheat toward the quiet little flock. It tell among them, and they all scampered under the fence and went out of slight in a hurry. Then she threw some more of the grain on the ground where they had been, and secreted herself behind a row of peavines. Pre-ently one of the birds ventured to crawl under the fence into the garden. It soon tound the buckwheat, and set to filling its crop, and at this the other birds took courage, filed from their hiding places, and ber, and served their shade her hid of buckwheat into the air a

A Bird infibe Hand for Phillipses, 200

Jose; h M. Wulff, a broker of 287 Broadway. called at the Barge Office resterday, and told Interpreter Christian liaven that he believed that he was a distant relative of Alexander Philipsen, the Danish Helicew who is suing Gen. O'Beirne and Johnny himnson, each for \$20,000, for false arrest. Mr. Wulff wanted to give Philipsen a job, feeling very certain, he said, that he wouldn't get 20 cents out of either the General or Johnny.